

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00819 200143Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 IO-13 /114 W
-----090351 202035Z /43

R 190845Z APR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6027
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, SCUL, ET, SO, CU, UR, IZ
SUBJECT: IRAQI MEDIATION OF HORN DISPUTES?

1. THERE ARE MORE SIGNS THAT IRAQI REGIME MAY BE USING
DIPLOMATIC MEANS TO SEEK NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS OF
ERITREAN AND OGADEN DISPUTES. AS NOTED REF A, RAUL
CASTRO'S WIFE, VILMA ESPIN, HAS BEEN RECEIVED HERE AT
HIGH LEVEL. LOCAL MEDIA HAVE TREATED HER VISIT AS A
BILATERAL EVENT WITH EMPHASIS ON HER ROLE AS HEAD OF
CUBAN WOMEN'S FEDERATION. (HER FAMILY LINK HAS NOT BEEN
MENTIONED.) NONETHELESS, FACT SHE RECEIVED BY BOTH
SADDAM HUSSEIN AND MUNIF AL-RAZZAZ OF BAATH PARTY NATIONAL
COMMAND IS SIGNIFICANT. CREATION OF A BAATH
LINK TO CUBAN CP MAKES SENSE AS PART OF EFFORT TO KEEP
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IRAQI COMMUNISTS OUT OF THE PICTURE AND TO DILUTE
SOVIET INFLUENCE OVER CUBA, CHERISHED AS AN
IRAQI ALLY IN THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT. IRAQIS MAY
ALSO SEE HER VISIT AS OPPORTUNITY TO REINFORCE THEIR
PREVIOUS MESSAGES TO CUBAN GOVERNMENT ABOUT SITUATION
IN HORN.

2. UNUSUALLY REVEALING NEWS RELEASE STATED THAT FOREIGN
MINISTER MET SEPARATELY WITH SOVIET AND CUBAN AMBASSADORS
APRIL 12 TO DISCUSS BILATERAL RELATIONS AND SITUATION
IN HORN. THIS SUPPORTS SUSPICION OF LOCAL DIPLOMATIC
CORPS THAT HORN HAS BEEN A MAJOR TOPIC OF
DISCUSSION FOR SOME TIME BETWEEN BAGHDAD REGIME AND THE
TWO COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS.
MACK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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